



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/287,478	04/06/1999	CHRISTIAN STIG RODE	RCI001V1	6350
50132 7590 12/14/2005 RODE CONSULTING, INC. 2412 STEARNS HILL RD. WALTHAM, MA 02451			EXAMINER PHAN, THAI Q	
			ART UNIT 2128	PAPER NUMBER
DATE MAILED: 12/14/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/287,478

Applicant(s)

RODE, CHRISTIAN STIG

Examiner

Thai Q. Phan

Art Unit

2128

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/04, 01 & 10/05.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on 09/22/2005.

Claims 1-16 are pending in the action.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed 10/19/2005 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.97(c) because it lacks the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Huben et al, US patent no. 5,950,201 in views of Lawman et al, US patent no. 6,324,672 B1 and Kahn et al, US patent no. 6,574,628 B1.

As per claim 1, Van Huben (201) discloses a method and system for computerized design automization using inter-networking (e.g. World Wide Web) for transmitting design or simulation data over the network with feature limitations very similar to the claimed invention (Abstract, "Summary of the Invention"). According to Van Huben, the design simulation and verification method includes steps of creating

a transmission network including clients, servers, etc. to form a computing and simulation network wherein each network client would carry unique identifier such as addressing to client, account number, etc. (Col. 18, lines 20-25, col. 23, lines 17-49, as example),

creating and transmitting created structure design data , accepting data from at least one client (col. 9, line 41 to col. 10, line 20), wherein the structure design data would include user interface information (elements) to guide user to enter design data, design information, etc. in different templates and system platforms, such as high level programming languages, PC workstations, UNIX, etc as claimed (cols. 44-45, 63), merging design form data with other data including template data for concurrent processing, processing merged data for output,

merging user form data and the user identifier from the user client,

simulating functional design with merged data using user interactive window program, and transmitting design simulation data with compatible format to client as claimed (col. 6, lines 54-67, col. 9, line 53 to col. 11, line 55, col. 16, line 33 to col. 18, line 64, col. 20, line 27 to col. 22, line 65, cols. 33, 44-45, 51, 85-88). Van-Huben does not expressly disclose a unique identifier with a display list, and transmitting the unique identifier by using a stateless communication protocol as claimed. Such features are however well-known in the art. In fact, Lawman teaches a web-based design method and system over a computer network to provide a user or client with a unique identifier to create or generate design simulation data (col. 7, lines 50-58). The network transmits the unique identifier to create user client interface, taking action from the user through

Art Unit: 2128

the web-based programming interface applet id (Figs. 5-17, cols. 7-10) and for user client interface such as entering or editing data from remote locations (cols. 7-10), compiling data from the other server, etc. as taught in col. 4, lines 1-42, and in cols. 7-10, for example.

For transmitting a unique identifier to data type (model) over a stateless communication network, Kahn teaches a distributed network for transmitting data packets over the network. Kahn further teaches the transmitted data packets including a unique identifier to data type (model) and the packets transmitted over the stateless communication network for processing (col. 5, line 55 to col. 6, line 6, col. 8, lines 50-65, col. 11, lines 29-41, col. 12, line 56 to col. 14, line 46). This would provide program interactions, simultaneous connections over the network, accessing and using network storage data, data interchanges, etc as taught in Kahn, cols. 1-7.

This would motivate practitioner in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Van Huben disclosure by implementing a unique identifier to the user (client) as taught by Lawman into the Van Huben design and simulation environment such that user can simulate, verify and modify his/her design data over a network by using a simpler interface provided by the simulation server connected to clients for remotely compiling and simulating user (client) design data over a network of vendor servers, simulation servers, and supply chain as taught by Lawman, and transmitting the unique identifier in the message packet field using stateless communication protocols through a distributed data processing network above.

As per claim 2, Van Huben also requires some of steps in claim 1 being repeated for design changes or for a new design.

As per claim 3, Lawman teaches various user interfaces for data rendering implemented in different operating system, wherein such implemented user interface including web browsers, user interface (cols. 6-10).

As per claims 4-6, Lawman teaches a unique identifier for customer or client access (col. 7, line 50 to col. 11, line 10).

As per claim 7, Lawman teaches the claimed features such as data base record, record indexing, timestamp for record, design simulation and compiling record, etc. (cols. 7-12).

As per claim 8, Van Huben (201) discloses process prioritized for scheduling and resources distribution for automation design tool (CAD) in network server for multiprocessing environment (col. 2, lines 40-45, col. 4, lines 1-19, col. 5, lines 12-21, lines 58-64, col. 6, lines 5-26).

As per claim 9, Lawman teaches the claimed features such as circuit synthesis and design data from vendor to client, design and synthesis from client to simulation server or vendor for circuit design and compilation (cols. 7-12).

As per claim 10, Van Huben (201) discloses a method and system for computerized design automization using inter-networking (e.g. World Wide Web) for transmitting design or simulation data over the network with feature limitations very similar to the claimed invention (Abstract, "Summary of the Invention"). According to Van Huben, the design simulation and verification method includes steps of creating

a transmission network including clients, servers, etc. to form a computing and simulation network wherein each network client would carry unique identifier such as addressing to client, account number, etc. (Col. 18, lines 20-25, col. 23, lines 17-49, as example),

creating and transmitting created structure design data , accepting data from at least one client (col. 9, line 41 to col. 10, line 20), wherein the structure design data would include user interface information (elements) to guide user to enter design data, design information, etc. in different templates and system platforms, such as high level programming languages, PC workstations, UNIX, etc as claimed (cols. 44-45, 63), merging design form data with other data including template data for concurrent processing, processing merged data for output,

merging user form data and the user identifier from the user client,

simulating functional design with merged data using user interactive window program, and transmitting design simulation data with compatible format to client as claimed (col. 6, lines 54-67, col. 9, line 53 to col. 11, line 55, col. 16, line 33 to col. 18, line 64, col. 20, line 27 to col. 22, line 65, cols. 33, 44-45, 51, 85-88). Van-Huben does not expressly disclose a unique identifier with a display list, and transmitting the unique identifier by using a stateless communication protocol as claimed. Such features are however well-known in the art. In fact, Lawman teaches a web-based design method and system over a computer network to provide a user or client with a unique identifier to create or generate design simulation data (col. 7, lines 50-58). The network transmits the unique identifier to create user client interface, taking action from the user through

Art Unit: 2128

the web-based programming interface applet id (Figs. 5-17, cols. 7-10) and for user client interface such as entering or editing data from remote locations (cols. 7-10), compiling data from the other server, etc. as taught in col. 4, lines 1-42, and in cols. 7-10, for example.

For transmitting a unique identifier to data type (model) over a stateless communication network, Kahn teaches a distributed network for transmitting data packets over the network. Kahn teaches the transmitted data packets including a unique identifier to data type (model) and the packets transmitted over the stateless communication network for processing (col. 5, line 55 to col. 6, line 6, col. 8, lines 50-65, col. 11, lines 29-41, col. 12, line 56 to col. 14, line 46). This would provide program interactions, simultaneous connections over the network, accessing and using network storage data, data interchanges, etc as taught in Kahn, cols. 1-7.

This would motivate practitioner in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Van Huben disclosure by implementing a unique identifier to the user (client) as taught by Lawman into the Van Huben design and simulation environment such that user can simulate, verify and modify his/her design data over a network by using a simpler interface provided by the simulation server connected to clients for remotely compiling and simulating user (client) design data over a network of vendor servers, simulation servers, and supply chain as taught by Lawman, and transmitting the unique identifier in the packet data field by using stateless communication protocols through a distributed data processing network above.

As per claim 11, Van Huben (201) discloses privilege mode and mode selection for user over simulation network.

As per claim 12, Van Huben (201) discloses the user client in a network of workstations and web browser. Each user client station carries a unique identification may be saved in client browser (col. 9) in order to identify user workstation for tracking, security, and other purposes to improve network quality. Van Huben teaches user web browser to access, retrieve, and perform user work such simulation of circuit, verification of user design, etc. over a distributed CAD design system over a computer network (Figs. 3-10, 19, 20, cols. 10-20, 44-50).

Lawman teaches a web-based design method and system over a computer network to provide a user or client with a unique identifier to create or generate design simulation data (col. 7, lines 50-58). The network transmits the unique identifier to create user client interface, taking action from the user through the web-based programming interface applet id (Figs. 5-17, cols. 7-10) and for user client interface such as entering or editing data (cols. 7-10) remotely, compiling data from the other server, etc. as taught in col. 4, lines 1-42, and in cols. 7-10.

As per claim 13, Lawman teaches feature limitations such as getfile, logfile, data type and format for simulation (cols. 7-12).

As per claim 14, Lawman teaches web based unique identifier including web interface for data selection and entry as claimed.

As per claim 15, Van Huben (201) discloses a method and system for computerized design automization using inter-networking (e.g. World Wide Web) for

Art Unit: 2128

transmitting design or simulation data over the network with feature limitations very similar to the claimed invention (Abstract, "Summary of the Invention"). According to Van Huben, the design simulation and verification method includes steps of creating a transmission network including clients, servers, etc. to form a computing and simulation network wherein each network client would carry unique identifier such as addressing to client, account number, etc. (Col. 18, lines 20-25, col. 23, lines 17-49, as example),

creating and transmitting created structure design data , accepting data from at least one client (col. 9, line 41 to col. 10, line 20), wherein the structure design data would include user interface information (elements) to guide user to enter design data, design information, etc. in different templates and system platforms, such as high level programming languages, PC workstations, UNIX, etc as claimed (cols. 44-45, 63), merging design form data with other data including template data for concurrent processing, processing merged data for output,

merging user form data and the user identifier from the user client,

simulating functional design with merged data using user interactive window program, and transmitting design simulation data with compatible format to client as claimed (col. 6, lines 54-67, col. 9, line 53 to col. 11, line 55, col. 16, line 33 to col. 18, line 64, col. 20, line 27 to col. 22, line 65, cols. 33, 44-45, 51, 85-88). Van-Huben does not expressly disclose a unique identifier with a display list, and transmitting the unique identifier by using a stateless communication protocol as claimed. Such features are however well-known in the art. In fact, Lawman teaches a web-based design method

Art Unit: 2128

and system over a computer network to provide a user or client with a unique identifier to create or generate design simulation data (col. 7, lines 50-58). The network transmits the unique identifier to create user client interface, taking action from the user through the web-based programming interface applet id (Figs. 5-17, cols. 7-10) and for user client interface such as entering or editing data from remote locations (cols. 7-10), compiling data from the other server, etc. as taught in col. 4, lines 1-42, and in cols. 7-10, for example.

For transmitting a unique identifier to data type (model) over a stateless communication network, Kahn teaches a distributed network for transmitting data packets over the network. Kahn teaches the transmitted data packets including a unique identifier to data type (model) and the packets transmitted over the stateless communication network for processing (col. 5, line 55 to col. 6, line 6, col. 8, lines 50-65, col. 11, lines 29-41, col. 12, line 56 to col. 14, line 46). This would provide program interactions, simultaneous connections over the network, accessing and using network storage data, data interchanges, etc as taught in Kahn, cols. 1-7.

This would motivate practitioner in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Van Huben disclosure by implementing a unique identifier to the user (client) as taught by Lawman into the Van Huben design and simulation environment such that user can simulate, verify and modify his/her design data over a network by using a simpler interface provided by the simulation server connected to clients for remotely compiling and simulating user (client) design data over a network of vendor servers, simulation servers, and supply chain as taught by Lawman, and transmitting the unique

Art Unit: 2128

identifier in the field over a stateless communication protocol through a distributed data processing network above.

As per claim 16, Van Huben discloses processing a plurality of simulations from single client concurrently, and reducing simulation process as claimed including aborting simulation process, keeping the last simulation process results, etc. as known for those skilled in the simulation and a practice in simulation processing.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

1. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
1. US patent no. 5,615,367, issued to Bennett et al, on 03/1997
2. US patent no. 5,778,368, issued to Hogan et al, on 07/1998
3. US patent no. 6,014,647, issued to Nizzari et al, on 01/2000
4. US patent no. 6,035,300, issued to Carson et al, on 03/2000
5. US patent no. 6,658,464, issued to Reisman, Richard, on 12/2003
6. US patent application publication no. 2002/0174263 A1, issued to Codd et al, on 11/2002.

Art Unit: 2128

2. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Thai Phan whose telephone number is 571-272-3783.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamini Shah can be reached on 571-272-2279. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dec. 02, 2005


Thai Phan
Patent Examiner
Au: 2128